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In re Patent Application of

Wood et al

Atty. Ref.: 620-131

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial No. 08/669,656

Group: 1631

Filed: June 24, 1996

Examiner: Allen

For: ION CHANNEL

#28/F

Plunkett

5/21/02

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Monday, May 13, 2002

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action dated February 11, 2002, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims ~~8~~, ~~30-33~~ and ~~38-40~~, without prejudice.

Amend the claims as follows

F1 ^{3 18} (Thrice amended) A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of claims ~~9~~¹ or ~~10~~².

⁴ (Thrice amended) A host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of claims ~~9~~¹ or ~~10~~².

F2 ⁵ (Twice amended) A method of producing a mammalian sensory neuron sodium channel protein, wherein the sodium channel is insensitive to tetrodotoxin, comprising expressing a nucleic acid sequence of claim 9 in a host cell transformed with said nucleic acid sequence.

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